

Board of Elections

Organization: 140050

	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Current	2014/15 Requested	2014/15 Approved	Percent Change
Revenues					
Federal	\$7,585	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Charges & Fees	40,495	122,500	2,600	2,600	-98%
General Fund	499,217	530,049	483,141	488,604	-8%
Total	\$547,297	\$652,549	\$485,741	\$491,204	-25%
Expenses					
Personal Services	\$372,389	\$390,149	\$342,441	\$331,904	-15%
Supplies & Operations	174,908	262,400	143,300	159,300	-39%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0%
Total	\$547,297	\$652,549	\$485,741	\$491,204	-25%
Employees					
Permanent	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0%
Hourly	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0%
Total	4.00	4.01	4.00	4.00	0%

Budget Highlights

The Board of Elections' budget decreased by 33 percent (or \$212,345) from the current year budget. This is attributed to personnel changes (the Board of Elections' Director retired February 28th and a long-time Election Specialist resigned February 7th), having only one election scheduled during the fiscal year, and not purchasing electronic poll books in Fiscal Year 2014/15. Board of Elections' budget includes \$51,000 for conducting the Second Primary election, scheduled July 15th, 2014.

Performance Measurement

Fiscal Year 2014/15

In Fiscal Year 2014/15, the Board of Elections (BOE) will focus on preparing for and successfully conducting the Federal, State, and County General Elections. Similar to previous years' outcomes, Elections will continue to ensure that all election laws passed by the General Assembly will be applied by their effective date and that preventative maintenance will be conducted on all election equipment. Board of Elections also has a multi-year outcome that will ensure that every registered voter will have his/her signature on file at the State Board of Elections.

Fiscal Year 2013/14

At mid-year the BOE was on target or had already achieved 100 percent of its Fiscal Year 2013/14 outcomes. The office completed the October Hickory Primary (12.53 percent turnout) and the November Municipal and School Elections (15.78 percent turnout) without incident. BOE was in compliance with all election laws. Recently, with the passage of House Bill 589 numerous changes to North Carolina election law occurred. Staff is in the process of implementing the changes for the May primary.

Fiscal Year 2012/13

The Board of Elections achieved all four of its outcomes. Staff prepared for and conducted the General Election as scheduled in accordance with State and Federal laws. The General Election had a 67.11 percent turnout rate. Yearly preventive maintenance on all voting equipment was conducted and all machines, with the exception of one AutoMark (a tool to electronically help handicapped voters mark their ballots), were found to be in good working order.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Fiscal Year 2014/2015

Statement of Purpose

The goal of the Board of Elections Office is to serve the public in an efficient and courteous manner and to provide well-planned and managed elections with immediate results. The Board of Elections will conduct fair, honest, and impartial elections that encourage and provide easy access for all registered voters.

Outcomes

1. Prepare for and conduct the November 4, 2014 General Election as required by federal and state law.
2. Apply all election laws passed by the General Assembly by their effective date. House Bill 589- the Voter Identification and Verification Act (VIVA) was passed in the 2013 Session and will not be fully implemented until 2016. In fiscal year 2014/2015 the following changes will take place:
 - Elimination of Same Day Registration – Persons who are not registered to vote in a county can no longer register to vote in person during the one-stop early voting period. Qualified persons wanting to vote in an election must register to vote no later than 25 days before the date of the election.
 - Reduction of One-stop Voting days – One-stop voting is reduced to 10 days but maintains the same number of voting hours. One-stop now begins on the second Thursday prior to the date of an election instead of the third Thursday prior to the date of the election.
 - No Out of Precinct Voting – Voters who vote on Election Day must vote at the polling place for their correct precinct, based on their residential address as of 30 days prior to the date of the election. County boards of elections will not be able to count any provisional ballot for a voter that does not vote at their correctly assigned precinct on Election Day.
 - Absentee Voting – Requesting an absentee ballot must be done on the State Absentee Ballot Request Form. Hand-written requests will no longer be accepted. The voter or requestor must provide the voter's date of birth and identification information that can be matched to the voter's record in the list of registered voters. A voter must now vote his or her ballot in the presence of two witnesses. A voter may vote his or her ballot in the presence of one witness only, if the witness is a Notary Public.
3. In order to have a signature on file for each registered voter, the State Board of Elections has required all voter registration documents be scanned into the State Registration System (SEIMS). To date, Catawba County voter registration database has 102,000 registered voters. The office has 13,500 (approx. 13 percent) registered voters signatures left to capture.

2014/2015: Scan 4,000 signatures (approx. 30 percent of remaining signatures). When the project is completed, each voter's signature will be clipped and available for comparison during each election if required.